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## PRESS OFFICE

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### **SBA Invites America's Small Businesses to Share Their Stories** ***Call for Awards Nominations Now Open Ahead of*** ***2020 National Small Business Week***

**Providence, RI** – [The U.S. Small Business Administration](#) is now accepting nominations for its 2020 National Small Business Week Awards, including Small Business Person of the Year. For more than 50 years, National Small Business Week has celebrated the inspiring achievements of America's small businesses and the countless contributions they make to their local communities, and to our nation's economy, and this year's celebration will take place May 3-9, 2020.

"We are proud to once again recognize the best small business owners that the Ocean State has to offer," said SBA District Director Mark S. Hayward. "Winning an SBA award during National Small Business Week is an honor that few small businesses ever achieve. It is a chance for our communities to highlight and support these amazing small businesses, and their owners, and the unique stories that led each of them to success. Please take a moment to visit [sba.gov/nsbw](https://sba.gov/nsbw) to nominate a deserving Rhode Island small business owner."

SBA Awards given in celebration of National Small Business Week to eligible small businesses operating for a minimum of 3 years include the following:

#### **National Awards**

- **Small Business Person of the Year**
- **Small Business Exporter of the Year**

#### **District Office Awards**

- Jeffrey Butland Family Owned Small Business
- Minority Small Business Owner of the Year
- Veteran Small Business Owner of the Year
- Woman Small Business Owner of the Year
- Home-based Small Business Owner of the Year
- Microenterprise of the Year
- Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- Small Business Manufacturer of the Year
- Financial Services Champion

All nominations must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm, Dec. 6, 2019. All nomination packages must be hand delivered or mailed to the Rhode Island District Office by 3:00 pm on Jan. 7, 2020. Email submissions of SBA Awards forms will not be accepted as they contain personally identifiable information (PII).

For more information visit [www.SBA.gov/RI](http://www.SBA.gov/RI) or contact [Ryan.Brissette@sba.gov](mailto:Ryan.Brissette@sba.gov).

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### **About the U.S. Small Business Administration**

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).